

**INTERPRETATIONS & APPLICATIONS
OF BUILDING CODES & REGULATIONS #97-4**



CODE SECTION : UBC SECTION 711.4 & 713.10

9/16/97

SUBJECT : PROTECTION OF OPENINGS IN EXHAUST SHAFTS

UBC SECTIONS 711.4 & 713.10 have an exception which allows exhaust only openings into a shaft enclosure where serving a continuously running fan, to have smoke dampers omitted, if protected using the provisions of Chapter 9.

This means one of the appropriate methods described in UBC Chapter 9, Section 905.2.4, or other recognized design methods, shall be used, which in the opinion of the mechanical engineer, or the fire protection engineer, will prevent the backflow of smoke through the opening.

Calculations or documented design rationale may be required by the Building Official.

If fire dampers are also deleted, steel subducts as described in UBC Section 713.11 shall be used.